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BALDWIN HILLS PARKLANDS SHUTTLE OPENING ON MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. WEEKEND

LOS ANGELES –The Link, small shuttle buses that travel through neighborhoods and connect residents to light rail, subway, rapid bus stops and community destinations, is now available in Culver City and Baldwin Hills. Operated by the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, the Link will be free on its inauguration weekend, January 19-21.

The Link - Baldwin Hills Parklands, which runs in a 20 minute loop, connects the La Cienega Exposition Line light rail station to the Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook and Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area. The shuttle will run on weekends and holidays from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and will cost only 25 cents.

In such a sprawling region, where a 50-year-old highway construction program has dominated the landscape, alternative and more affordable modes of transportation in Los Angeles County must be adopted. Hoping to ease congestion, parking and traffic hassles, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors Chairman Mark Ridley-Thomas has embraced the Link as a simple solution for commuters to travel the "final mile" to their

destinations. Currently, there are six Link routes in the Second District: Florence/Firestone, Lennox, Athens, Baldwin Hills and two in Willowbrook.

The award winning firm Sussman/Prejza designed the Link shuttles in playful, eyecatching graphics that distinguish them from any other local bus.

"Easing congestion is an important element toward giving our residents a better quality of life," said Chairman Ridley-Thomas. "I am committed to finding creative solutions to our challenges and to making the Second District and the Los Angeles region an easier place to navigate. The Link – Baldwin Hills Parklands will allow people to hike and enjoy the most beautiful urban parks in the region, without having to worry about finding or paying for a parking space."

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